

VZCZCXRO6065  
PP RUEHROV  
DE RUEHMD #0458 1141721  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 231721Z APR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4648  
INFO RUEHKK/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE  
RUEHLA/AMCONSUL BARCELONA 3403

UNCLAS MADRID 000458

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/WE, NEA/RA, NEA/IPA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [EAID](#) [KPAL](#) [PREL](#) [SP](#)

SUBJECT: SPANISH FM MORATINOS TO PARTICIPATE IN MAY 2 AHLC

REF: STATE 40303

¶1. In response to reftel demarche, Deputy Director General Alberto Ucelay told us that Foreign Minister Moratinos will attend the May 2 AHCL in London. Ucelay said that the Spanish MFA had already given the Norwegians input that the AHLC's primary focus should be energizing the international community to continue the initiatives discussed at the Annapolis Conference. Spain agrees that it is essential to make progress in specific areas affecting Palestinian economic development, especially access and movement. Spain will also work to increase support for Prime Minister Fayyad and President Abbas.

¶2. According to Ucelay, Spain was the first EU member state to utilize the new PEGASE mechanism to contribute funds directly to the Palestinian single treasury account. Spain deposited 20 million euros to the Palestinians in the last several weeks with the intention of supporting May salary payments for Palestinian National Authority officials, in accordance with the priorities determined by Abbas and Fayyad.

¶3. Spain shares our concerns about the situation in Gaza. The Spanish MFA issued an official communique April 17 calling for all parties to end violence and exercise restraint. Ucelay said that FM Moratinos looked forward to working with our team in London.

AGUIRRE